

**Howard County Commission for Women
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive
Columbia, Maryland 21046
June 13, 2017**

Members Present

Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Chair
Alice Giles, Recording Secretary
Nina Basu
Lanlan Xu
Joyce Kim
Naveen McLeod
Jessica Epps
Megha Sharma, Student Commissioner

Members Absent

Suellen Seigel, Vice-Chair
Bano Rizvi
Cindi Rubin

Staff Present

Jacqueline Scott, Executive Secretary
Becca Hunt, Administrative Secretary

Staff Absent

Call to Order:

Chair Joan Webb Scornaienchi called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of the Agenda:

Nina Basu moved to approve the June Agenda and Neveen McLeod seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of February Minutes:

Naveen McLeod moved to approve the May Minutes and Nina Basu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Secretary's Report:

Jackie Scott, Executive Secretary for the Women's Commission has been appointed by the county executive as the new Director for the Department of Community Resources and Services. She informed the commissioners that the Department will undergo a realignment of the boards and commissions so that they better align with the Department's goals and objections. Jackie Scott informed the commissioners of changes to the Open Meeting Act, stating that at least one commissioner will be required to go to the training. There was a discussion of how commissioners and staff interact.

Chair's Report:

Joan Webb Scornaienchi Chair informed the Commission that Mary Jo Neil has resigned.

Project

Feminine Hygiene Products Drive

- Suellen has collected 15 gift cards from retailers throughout the county to use to purchase additional product.

- A few companies are using the drive as a competition between floors or departments to encourage donations.
- Lanlan informed the commissioners her employer is matching money for the donations she has collected. The amount so far for the Howard County Food Bank is \$1,744.00.
- There was input about making the feminine hygiene drive a one month drive instead of two and moving it back to the fall.
- For future drives they would like to have a targeted e-mail blast and more Facebook posting.
- Neveen suggested an educational component to the drive in order to make it easier for Commissioners to ask for donations.
- Next year they may have a smaller pod for donations.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Other Upcoming Community Events: Diaper fund raising event.

- Change the approach of the fund drive
- Suggested was an educational campaign/program to inform Howard County constituents of the poverty level here in Howard County.
- An informational packet for potential donations.
- Updates on collections.
- Diaper and Feminine Hygiene drive to be included at the Multi-Service Center.

Officers 2017-18

The voting of officers for the Commission for Women took place. The new Chairperson is Neveen McLeod Jessica Epps will be the new Vice-Chair. Megha Sharma will be the new Recording Secretary.

Future Events

Laurie Reuben was suggested to lead the retreat again this year. Joyce Kim suggested the Commission host an event where attendees can bring their daughters and Nina proposed that this be tied into the annual Gathering.

Neeven stated that she was excited to begin work as the new Chair and that she wants to encourage working together as a full team rather than breaking into subcommittees.

Adjournment. Alice Giles moved to adjourn, Nina seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33pm

Respectfully submitted by Alice Giles

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 11th